



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

SAUDI NATIONAL ARRESTED ON FEDERAL CHARGES OF FORCED LABOR

BOSTON—A Saudi national residing in Winchester was arrested today on federal charges in connection with the forced labor of two domestic servants following an investigation conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

Hana F. Al Jader, 39, of 62 Cambridge Street, Winchester, Mass. was arrested today and charged today in a ten-count Indictment charging her with two counts of Forced Labor, Two counts of Document Servitude, two counts of Falsification of Records, two counts of Visa Fraud, and two counts of Harboring an Alien.

The Indictment was announced jointly today by United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan; Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights R. Alexander Acosta; Robin M. Avers, Special Agent-in-Charge of ICE in Boston; and Kenneth W. Kaiser, Special Agent-in-Charge of the FBI.

The Indictment alleges that Al Jader, a citizen of Saudi Arabia, resided in residences in Arlington and Winchester, Massachusetts. It is alleged that she obtained the labor and services of two Indonesian women as domestic servants for her and her family from February, 2003 through November 2004, by a scheme intended to cause the two women to believe that, if they did not perform such labor, they would suffer serious harm.

Al Jader is also charged with confiscating and possessing the women's passports to prevent and restrict their liberty to move and travel in order to maintain their labor and services.

The Indictment also charges Al Jader with creating a false work contract and submitting it to the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services for visa extensions for the servants, falsely asserting that they were being paid \$1,500 a month and working only eight hours a day. It is alleged that in fact the servants were paid only \$300 per month and worked more than eight hours each day. Al Jader is further charged with unlawfully harboring the servants after their visa extensions expired.

“To hold another person in involuntary servitude shows a pure disregard for human dignity. It is both inhumane and criminal,” stated ICE Special Agent-in-Charge Avers. “ICE is committed to aggressively investigating human traffickers who exploit their fellow human beings.”

Al Jader was arrested today on the charges and will appear this afternoon before a U.S. Magistrate Judge. If convicted, Al Jader faces a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison on the two Forced Labor counts; 5 years on each Document Servitude count; 20 years on the Falsification of Records counts; 15 years on the two Visa fraud counts; and 10 years on the two Harboring counts. She also faces a \$250,000 fine on each count and restitution.

Assistant U.S. Attorney S. Theodore Merritt in Sullivan’s Public Corruption and Special Prosecutions Unit and Lou DeBaca, Special Litigation Counsel in the Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division are handling the prosecution of this case.

The details contained in the Indictment are allegations. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.